State of Maharashtra & Ors. have adjudicated on some of the questions having a bearing on the draft legislation.

Facilities under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

2727. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the facilities being given to the students under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan at present;

(b) whether Government propose to review the distribution of free text books to all the students; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is a programme for universalisation of elementary education in a time bound manner. It seeks to povide *inter-alia,* school infrastructure, teachers, textbook to SC/ST children and all girls, as well as inputs like regular training for teachers and the community, to promote enrolment, retention and improved learning levels amongst children in the 6-14 age group.

Stenography specialists as professors

† 2728. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no provisions for appointment of specialists in stenography as visiting lecturers or professors in polytechnics;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and whether the All India Technical Education Council is no responsible for under valuing this subject; and

(c) the reasons for not giving recognition to the specialists of this subject?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.